

104TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. J. RES. 186

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States restoring the right of Americans to pray in public institutions, including public school graduation ceremonies and athletic events.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 23, 1996

Mr. HEFNER introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States restoring the right of Americans to pray in public institutions, including public school graduation ceremonies and athletic events.

1       *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*  
2       *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       *(two-thirds of each House concurring therein),* That the fol-  
4       lowing article is hereby proposed as an amendment to the  
5       Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to  
6       all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution if rati-  
7       fied by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several

1 States within 7 years from the date of its submission to  
2 the States by the Congress:

3 “ARTICLE —

4 “Nothing in this Constitution shall be construed to  
5 prohibit voluntary individual or group prayer in public  
6 schools or other public institutions, or to prohibit prayer  
7 at public school baccalaureate services, athletic events, or  
8 other extracurricular activities. No person shall be re-  
9 quired by the United States or by any State to participate  
10 in prayer or to be present during any prayer. Neither the  
11 United States nor any State shall compose the words of  
12 any prayer to be said in public schools or other public in-  
13 stitutions, or at events sponsored by public schools or  
14 other public institutions.”.

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